

THE CLAIMS

The claims of the application, as amended, are:

1. (Currently Amended). A wheeled conveyance (2) ~~characterised by~~ comprising: a chassis (4) //,//; support means for a load mounted on the chassis (4) //,//; a suspension assembly mounted on the chassis (4) and comprising ~~spring means (32)~~ and suspension arms (8, 20) pivotably mounted on the chassis (4) and extending in forward and rearward directions in the region of opposite sides of the chassis (4), each suspension arm having a wheel (16, 26) rotatably mounted at the free end (18, 28) thereof, and two separate spring means (32), one disposed in the region of each side of the chassis (4), the free ends (18, 28) of the fowardly and rearwardly extending suspension arms (8, 20) being arranged to tend to pivot towards each other by means of the two separate spring means (32) being provided between, and acting on, the forwardly and rearwardly extending suspension arms (8, 20); and at least one two shock absorber means (38) separately cooperating between the chassis (4) and each of the suspension arms (8, 20) extending in the forward direction, wherein the two shock absorber means (38) are provided in a substantially horizontal plane acting on at least part of the suspension assembly and adapted and arranged to limit so as to limit and dampen tilting of the chassis (4) relative to at least part of the suspension assembly under dynamic load conditions tending to produce such tilting whilst upward and downward movement of the wheels (16, 26) with the suspension arms (8, 20) is substantially uninhibited thereby in the absence of tilting motion of the chassis (4).
2. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the wheels (16, 26) mounted at the free ends (18, 28) of one of the forwardly extending and rearwardly extending suspension arms (8, 20) are provided with swivel means arranged such that the wheels (16, 26) are adapted to swivel independently of one another.

3. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that, wherein the wheels (16, 26) mounted at the free ends (18, 28) of one of the forwardly extending and rearwardly extending suspension arms (8, 20) are provided with swivel means arranged such that the wheels (16, 26) are adapted to swivel about a generally upright axis.

4. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 2 or 3, characterised in that, wherein the wheels (16, 26) arranged to swivel are adapted to swivel provided with swivel means are further provided with limiting means permitting swivelling through a predetermined limited range.

5. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in any preceding claim, characterised in that claim 1, wherein the wheeled conveyance is non-powered.

6. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that claim 1, wherein the wheeled conveyance is self-propelled.

7. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 6, characterised in that wherein the self-propelled wheeled conveyance comprises a motorised wheelchair, having a support means comprising a seat (6), and a load comprising a person to be transported.

8. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 6 or 7, characterised in that, wherein the wheels (16) mounted at the free ends (28) of the suspension arms (20) extending in the rearward direction are each motor-driven and the wheels (26) mounted at the free ends (18) of the suspension arms (8) extending in the forward direction are arranged provided with swivel means adapted to allow the wheels (26) to swivel.

9. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 6 or 7, characterised in that, wherein the wheels (26) mounted at the free ends (18) of the suspension arms (8) extending in the forward direction are each motor-driven and the wheels (16) mounted at the free ends (28) of the suspension arms (20) extending in the rearward direction are arranged provided with swivel means adapted to allow the wheels (16) to swivel.

10. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 8 or 9, characterised in that, wherein the motor-driven wheels are powered by separate motors (30).

11. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 10, characterised in that wherein the separate motors are electric motors (30).

12. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 11, characterised in that wherein the electric motors (30) are powered by [one or more batteries] at least one battery.

13. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 12, characterised in that the one or more batteries are wherein the at least one battery is mounted on the chassis (4).

14. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 13, characterised in that claim 8, wherein a manually-operated controller is provided for controlling the motors (30) whereby motion and steering of the conveyance is controlled.

15. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 14, characterised in that wherein the manually-operated controller is a joystick.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in ~~any preceding claim, characterised in that the at least one~~ claim 1, wherein the two shock absorber means (38) is ~~adjustable~~ provided with adjustment means to effect a desired extent of limitation of the tilting of the chassis (4).

18. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in ~~any preceding claim, characterised in that the at least one~~ shock absorber means (38) is adapted and arranged whereby tilting claim 1, wherein the two shock absorber means (38) are provided with adjustment means adapted to substantially minimise tilting of the chassis (4) is substantially minimised.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 21, ~~characterised in that~~ 1, wherein each of the two shock absorber means (38) are of elongate telescopic form, having one end (40) thereof pivotably secured to the chassis (4) and an opposite end (44) thereof pivotably secured to the associated forwardly extending suspension arm (8).

23. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 21, ~~characterised in that~~ 1, wherein each of the two shock absorber means (38) are of elongate telescopic form, having one end (40) thereof pivotably secured to the chassis (4) and an opposite end (44) thereof pivotably secured to a strut (46) extending upwardly from the associated forwardly extending suspension arm (8).

24. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 22 or 23, characterised in that, wherein the pivotably secured ends (40, 44) of each of the shock absorber means of elongate telescopic form undergo pivoting are adapted to pivot during corresponding pivoting of its associated forwardly extending suspension arm (8).

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in any one of claims 21 to 25, characterised in that claim 1, wherein the two shock absorber means (38) are adapted to operate simultaneously and collectively to limit the forward tilting of the chassis (4), with each shock absorber means acting independently on its associated forwardly extending suspension arm (8).

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 9, wherein the motor-driven wheels are powered by separate motors (30).

34. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 33, wherein the separate motors are electric motors (30).

35. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 34, wherein the electric motors (30) are powered by at least one battery.

36. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 35, wherein the at least one battery is mounted on the chassis (4).

37. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 9, wherein a manually-operated controller is provided for controlling the motors (30) whereby motion and steering of the conveyance is controlled.

38. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 37, wherein the manually-operated controller is a joystick.

39. (New) A wheeled conveyance as claimed in claim 23, wherein the pivotably secured ends (40, 44) of each of the shock absorber means of elongate telescopic form are adapted to pivot during corresponding pivoting of its associated forwardly extending suspension arm (8).